

2010

FEDERAL
LEGISLATIVE
PROGRAM



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LEGISLATIVE PRINCIPLES

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Preserve and Enhance Local Funding

Protect existing funding and authorities that impact revenues to the City of Scottsdale. Seek opportunities for use of federal resources when appropriate and consistent with local and federal funding priorities.

Oppose Preemption of Local Authority

Cities and towns are voluntarily created by the residents of a community to provide local self-governance. Efforts that would create unfunded mandates or preempt the ability of local governments to set appropriate policy at the local level should be opposed.

TRANSPORTATION

Mustang Library Park and Ride

Request \$3 million in federal assistance toward land acquisition and construction of a park and ride lot adjacent to the City of Scottsdale’s Mustang Library, located at 10101 North 90th Street near the Scottsdale Health Care (Shea) hospital. The project is necessary for residents to take advantage of public transportation in the City’s most congested traffic corridor.

Transportation Improvements to Hayden Road and Camelback Road Intersection

Request \$2.4 million in federal assistance toward the design and construction of additional turn lane capacity and a pedestrian underpass. The improvements will facilitate access between the Pima Freeway and Downtown Scottsdale.

The Arizona Canal; Path and Trail Improvements

Request \$2.5 million in federal assistance toward the design and construction of path and trail improvements between Camelback Road and Indian Bend Road. This project will allow for final completion of the Arizona Canal path and trail system in Scottsdale.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Support full funding of the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) program at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), as well as the ability of the Phoenix region to apply for these funds. Support continued funding for the Metropolitan Medical Response System program at DHS, as it has been a beneficial tool for Phoenix area emergency planning. Support more flexibility in the use of federal homeland security funds at the local and regional levels and support continued federal assistance for fusion centers, which allow for improved information sharing among federal, state, and local public safety agencies.



Support sufficient funding for the COPS program and Local Law Enforcement Block Grant, which would provide direct, flexible assistance to local governments to perform vital law enforcement operations. Support continued funding for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant program, as well as the SAFER firefighter hiring grant program, and tax breaks for the installation of automatic fire sprinkler systems.

Oppose legislation that would mandate collective bargaining for all state and local public safety officers as well as a federal “police officer’s bill of rights” on the grounds that they represent a federal intrusion into matters traditionally handled on the local level.

WATER RESOURCES

Support efforts to protect and enhance the City's ability to provide safe, reliable water and wastewater services to the citizens of Scottsdale at a reasonable cost.

Oppose unfunded and/or burdensome regulations that would unnecessarily increase water delivery costs disproportionate to the benefit received by Arizona water users.

HUMAN SERVICES

Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG)

Support continued funding for the CDBG entitlement program. The City of Scottsdale uses its annual CDBG allocation (\$1.17 million in FY 2009) for critical services such as housing rehabilitation for the elderly and working poor, meals for the elderly, transitional housing, mentoring for children, employment training for the disabled, domestic violence shelters, and homeless assistance. CDBG funding is vital because the City receives more funding requests for eligible services than its annual allocation can fund.

Section 8 Assisted Housing

Support the continued viability of the Section 8 assisted housing program as an important complement to other core HUD programs, such as CDBG and HOME. Scottsdale currently provides assistance to 717 low-income families through the program, with another 248 families on the Section 8 wait list. More than \$5.5 million in Section 8 assistance was provided to Scottsdale families in FY 2009.

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

Support at least \$2.6 billion annually for the LIHEAP program, as Arizona’s (and other warm-weather states) formula distribution increases significantly at that level. Also support changes to the program formula that would recognize the challenges presented in warmer climates in the same manner as colder locations. Arizona remains one of the lowest per capita recipients of Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program funds each year.



PARKS AND RECREATION

Land and Water Conservation Fund

Support the restoration of funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF), a valuable funding tool to assist local recreation, conservation and preservation programs. While Congress originally intended for \$900 million annually in offshore drilling revenues to be directed to the LWCF, the program receives only a small fraction of the amount each year.

Indian Bend Wash Lake Recharge

Request \$1 million in federal assistance for the revitalization of eroding lakes within the Indian Bend Wash. Over the past thirty to forty years, a series of lakes within the Wash have experienced significant erosion and sediment build-up that has reduced their depth and endangered the fish population. The flooding issues have impacted City bike paths, pedestrian bridges, and recreational amenities within the Wash, causing potential safety hazards to the public. Almost 10 acres of lake within the Indian Bend Wash will require improvement and additional funding at a cost of approximately \$600,000 per acre of lake surface area.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Support funding in FY 2011 for the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program. This program, authorized at \$2 billion per year through FY 2012, will provide formula funding to states and local governments for the design and implementation of energy efficiency programs.

